

Operations Office (see ADDRESSES above).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The recent issuance of the revised National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for SRS by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) established new outfall limits for copper, lead, mercury, and chronic toxicity which will become effective on October 1, 1999. Subsequent to SCDHEC issuing the revised permit, samples taken at the A-01 outfall have resulted in the effluent consistently not meeting the new 1999 outfall limits for copper and chronic toxicity. DOE needs to implement actions to reduce these concentrations prior to that time when the new outfall limits are scheduled to go into effect. Extensive research has indicated that a constructed subsurface flow wetlands with an associated detention basin would treat these constituents and reduce the concentrations below the new permit limits before the effluent reaches the NPDES compliance sampling point.

The proposed action entails the construction, and operation of the following: (1) A system of pipes to collect the process and storm water effluent from the local outfalls (i.e., A-01, A-03, A-04, A-05, and A-06), (2) a subsurface flow wetlands/detention basin complex to treat the effluent from these outfalls, and (3) an outfall system to discharge the treated effluent into Tim's Branch, the previously-established onsite receiving stream for the subject outfalls. The A-01 sampling point monitored by both SRS and SCDHEC would be relocated from the current location to the new outfall structure prior to the effluent flow entering the waters of the State.

Construction of the collection pipeline and subsurface flow wetlands/detention basin complex would involve the siting and implementation of these project components in upland areas above the floodplain and wetlands areas associated with Tim's Branch. These upland sites are currently occupied by either planted pine forest or previously-developed area (e.g., graveled parking lots). The pine forest, dominated by a mature overstory of longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*), has been managed by the U.S. Forest Service over the past four decades for timber production purposes only. Best management practices (e.g., placement of silt fences) would be employed during construction activities associated with this portion of the proposed action to ensure there is no deposition of erosional material or

sediment into the downslope wetland areas.

Construction of the new outfall discharging into Tim's Branch would entail placement of an outflow pipe from the wetlands/basin complex, construction of an outfall structure on the margin of the stream channel, and placement of riprap within the streambed itself to prevent erosion and scouring by the discharged effluent. The location of the proposed new outfall would be on the south side of the Tim's Branch stream corridor. The width of wetland area within that portion of the stream corridor is approximately two to four meters. The stream channel is deeply cut into the bottomland and the streambed is situated approximately one to two meters below the grade of the surrounding forest floor. These wetlands are characterized by a headwaters drainage habitat dominated by an overstory of sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), water oak (*Quercus nigra*), and hickory (*Carya* spp.). Hydrology is provided through effluent from the local NPDES outfalls and storm water runoff from the surrounding higher elevation lands. The soils within the stream channel appear to be largely erosional sediment in composition. The project activities to be located immediately on the south side of Tim's Branch and within the streambed itself are also located within the 100-year floodplain. Proceeding with this proposed action will require authorization by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under a Clean Water Act Section 404 nationwide permit.

A number of mitigation activities would be implemented to minimize potential impacts to the floodplain and wetlands. Operation of construction equipment in the wetland and floodplain areas would be minimized. Silt fences and other erosion control structures as needed would be installed to ensure there is no deposition in the downslope wetland areas. Minimal wetland acreage (i.e., less than 0.3 acres) would be impacted as a result of fill associated with the aforementioned outfall structure and placement of riprap material in the streambed.

Additionally, an erosion control plan would be developed so that the proposed action complies with applicable State and local floodplain protection standards and further to ensure that no additional impacts to wetlands will occur due to erosion and sedimentation. Best management practices would be employed during construction and maintenance activities associated with this proposed action.

In accordance with DOE regulations for compliance with floodplain and

wetland environmental review requirements (title 10 CFR Part 1022), DOE will prepare a floodplain and wetlands assessment for this proposed DOE action. The assessment will be included in the environmental assessment (EA) being prepared for the proposed action in accordance with the requirements of NEPA. A floodplain statement of findings will be included in any finding of no significant impact that is issued following the completion of the EA or may be issued separately.

Issued in Aiken, SC, on February 19, 1998.

Lowell E. Tripp,

Director, Engineering and Analysis Division,
Savannah River Operations Office.

[FR Doc. 98-5422 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-406-011]

CNG Transmission Corporation; Notice of Tariff Compliance Filing

February 25, 1998.

Take notice that on February 20, 1998, CNG Transmission Corporation (CNG), tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Second Revised Volume No. 1, Second Revised Sheet No. 37A, and the revised tariff sheets listed on Appendix A to the filing, for inclusion in its FERC Gas Tariff, Original Volume No. 2A.

CNG requests an effective date of January 6, 1998 for its revised tariff sheets.

CNG states that the purpose of this filing is to comply with two directives of the Commission's February 5 order in the captioned proceeding: to reflect an effective date of January 6, 1998, for Sheet No. 37A, and to file revised tariff sheets effective January 6, 1998, that reflect CNG's proposed rate increase on individual X rate schedules in Volume 2 A of its FERC Gas Tariff.

CNG states that copies of its letter of transmittal and enclosures are being mailed to all parties to the captioned proceeding.

Any person desiring to protest this filing should file a protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC, 20426, in accordance with Section 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such protests must be filed in accordance with Section 154.210 of the Commission's Regulations. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the

appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection in the Public Reference Room.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-5372 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-245-000]

Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation; Notice of Application

February 25, 1998.

Take notice that on February 19, 1998, Columbia Gas Transmission Corporation (Columbia), 12801 Fair Lakes Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-1046, filed in Docket No. CP98-245-000 an application pursuant to Section 7(b) of the Natural Gas Act, for permission and approval to abandon the transportation and exchange service with Union Light, Heat and Power Company (Union Light) provided under rate Schedule X-33, as revised, and all as more fully set forth in the application which is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

It is stated that the referenced exchange service provides for the transportation of natural gas by Union Light, for the account of Columbia, to Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company (CG&E) at multiple delivery points in Hamilton County, Ohio. Columbia states that it no longer delivers natural gas to CG&E in Ohio and instead delivers natural gas to CB&E in Kentucky, thus eliminating the need for the Rate Schedule X-33 agreement.

Any person desiring to be heard or to make any protest with reference to said application should on or before March 18, 1998, file with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20426, a motion to intervene or a protest in accordance with the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.214 or 385.211) and the Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.10). All protests filed with the Commission will be considered by it in determining the appropriate action to be taken but will not serve to make the protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party to a proceeding or to participate as a party in any hearing therein must file a motion to intervene

in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

Take further notice that, pursuant to the authority contained in and subject to the jurisdiction conferred upon the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by Sections 7 and 15 of the Natural Gas Act and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, a hearing will be held without further notice before the Commission or its designee on this application if no motion to intervene is filed within the time required herein, if the Commission on its own review of the matter finds that permission and approval for the proposed abandonment are required by the public convenience and necessity. If a motion for leave to intervene is timely filed, or if the Commission on its own motion believes that a formal hearing is required, further notice of such hearing will be duly given.

Under the procedure herein provided for, unless otherwise advised, it will be unnecessary for Columbia to appear or be represented at the hearing.

Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-5369 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. CP98-238-000]

Destin Pipeline Company, L.L.C.; Notice of Request Under Blanket Authorization

February 25, 1998.

Take notice that on February 17, 1998, Destin Pipeline Company, L.L.C. (Destin), P.O. Box 2563, Birmingham, Alabama 35202-2563, filed in Docket No. CP98-238-000 a request pursuant to §§ 157.205 and 157.208 of the Commission's Regulations under the Natural Gas Act (18 CFR 157.205, 157.208) for authorization to construct, install and operate a lateral pipeline and appurtenant facilities to accommodate the transportation of natural gas production from two new production platforms to be located in Main Pass Block 279 (Main Pass 279 Platform) and in Main Pass Block 281 (Main Pass 281 Platform) for connection into Destin's 36-inch mainline system at its Main Pass 260 Platform for ultimate delivery to downstream pipeline interconnections in southern and central Mississippi, under Destin's blanket certificate issued in Docket Nos. CP96-657-000 and -001 pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act, all as

more fully set forth in the request that is on file with the Commission and open to public inspection.

Specifically, Destin is proposing to construct, install and operate (i) Approximately 65,000 feet of 24-inch-diameter lateral pipeline from Destin's Main Pass 260 Platform to a sub-sea valve near the Main Pass 279 Platform, a pig receiver to be installed at the Main Pass 260 Platform, and sub-sea valving to be installed at the end of the 24-inch lateral pipeline in Main Pass Block 279, all in Federal Waters, Gulf of Mexico; (ii) approximately 1,000 feet of 12-inch-diameter tie-in pipeline from a sub-sea tie-in located on the 24-inch lateral near the Main Pass 279 Platform to the Main Pass 279 Platform, a riser, and a pig launcher to be installed at the Main Pass 279 Platform, all in Federal Waters, Gulf of Mexico; (iii) approximately 6,500 feet of 20-inch-diameter tie-in pipeline from a sub-sea tie-in located on the 24-inch lateral in Main Pass Block 280 to the Main Pass 281 Platform, a riser, and a pig launcher to be installed at the Main Pass 281 Platform, all in Federal Waters, Gulf of Mexico; and (iv) two Receipt Points located on the Main Pass 279 and the Main Pass 281 Platforms, with measurement facilities to be installed at both Receipt Points.

Destin states that the proposed facilities will enable it to receive additional gas supplies from the Eastern Gulf of Mexico for transportation to downstream markets onshore in Mississippi. Destin states that CNG Producing Company, majority working interest owner and operator, and two smaller working interest owners, Walter Oil & Gas Corporation and Sonat Exploration GOM Inc., have requested transportation services on Destin's system for their production from leases in Block 734 in the Viosca Knoll Area and in Blocks 279, 280, 281 and 284 in the Main Pass Area, East Addition, Gulf of Mexico (Committed Leases). Destin states that these shippers have entered into Reserve Commitment Agreements with Destin under which they have dedicated their production from the Committed Leases. Destin also states that the shippers have initially agreed to transport up to 230 MMcf per day of production from the Committed Leases, and that such production will be transported through the proposed Lateral Facilities and through Destin's mainline system under Destin's Rate Schedule FT-2.

Destin estimates the cost for the construction and installation of the jurisdictional facilities to be \$14,990,068. The total cost of the project is \$18,990,068, which includes a contribution in Aid of Construction of